

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB2005/000892

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC / A61F2/78

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 3 947 897 A (OWENS ET AL) 6 April 1976 (1976-04-06) claims; figures	1-4, 8, 10-12, 15 5-7, 9, 13, 14, 16-21
A	US 4 158 895 A (BRIGHT, CHARLES W ET AL) 26 June 1979 (1979-06-26) column 2, line 30 - column 3, line 19 claims; figure 1	1-21
A	EP 1 378 215 A (ESKA IMPLANTS GMBH & CO) 7 January 2004 (2004-01-07) paragraphs '0016!', '0026!', '0027!; claims; figures	1-21
	----- -/-- -----	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 August 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/08/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Kuehne, H-C

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB2005/000892

C.(f) (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2003/236575 A1 (YU CHANG ET AL) 25 December 2003 (2003-12-25) claims; figures -----	1-21
A	DE 102 47 397 B3 (ESKA IMPLANTS GMBH & CO) 8 January 2004 (2004-01-08) claims; figures -----	1-21
A	DE 196 50 816 A1 (ESKA IMPLANTS GMBH & CO) 18 June 1998 (1998-06-18) column 1, line 14 - column 2, line 43 claims; figures -----	1-21
A	DE 199 32 388 C1 (ESKA IMPLANTS GMBH & CO) 14 December 2000 (2000-12-14) claims; figures -----	1